The Government has noted the Interim Government of Fiji's statement that a process of consultations would be initiated shortly on the draft Constitution. Government hopes that this process will be free and democratic to enable all sections of the population to participate in the formulation of a Constitution acceptable to all.

Diversion of students to vocational courses under new education policy

*97. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the New Education Policy Government have decided to divert 10 per cent of the higher secondary students to the vocational courses by 1990;

(b) if so, what has been the figure in this regard during 1987-88 and upto September 1988, State-wise;

(c) whether financial stringency is hampering the vocationalisation plan; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Centrally-sponsored scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education was started in the last quarter of 1987-88 only. Assistance under the scheme has ben sanctioned for 3800 vocational courses for about 95000 students in 1270 schools. Detailed information about the starting of these courses and enrolment will become available after some time.

(c) and (d) While funds have so far not been available to the extent required for full implementation of the schme, efforts are being made to ensure optimum utilisation of the funds that are available.

Letting out of Jyotsna holdings Aircraft to Government agencies

*98. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jyostna Holdings Pvt. Ltd. owns one king Air C 90 aircraft acquired from Indamer Company of Bombay; if so, how and when it was acquired and the foreign component involved;

(b) whether the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akadami, Aero Club of India or any other organisation has used this aircraft; if so, when, on what terms and conditions and for how much payment, each time; and

(c) whether any helicopter/other aircraft has been taken on lease by Jyotsna Holdings and let out to any Ministery/Public undertakings; if so, for how much payment and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The aircraft was registered in the name of M/s Jyotsna Holdings Pvt. Ltd., on 28.9.1984. However, no information is available on the sale price of the aircraft or of any foreign exchange involvement in the transaction between the two parties.

(b) Neither Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi nor Aero Club of India has used this aircraft. This aircraft is maintained (for engineering needs) and operated by the Delhi Flying Club on behalf of M/s Jyotsna Holdings Pvt. Ltd. The payment is decided on the quantum and nature of operation.

(c) No other aircraft or helicopter is registered in the name of M/s Jyotsna Holdings Private Limited; therefore the question does not arise.

Acquisition of modified/upgraded F-16 war planes by Pakistan

*99. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appear-

ed in the Patriot dated the 24th October, 1988 to the effect that under the new US economic and military aid programme the modified/upgraded U.S. F-16s war planes are being acquired by Pakistan which could operate the next generation air-to-air and air-to-surface weapons systems;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what steps are being taken to meet the situation; and

(d) whether the issue has been taken up by Government with the US Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report has not been officially confirmed.

(c) Appropriate measures ar etaken at all times to ensure the country's security.

(d) From time to time Government have conveyed to the U.S. Government India's serious concern about the supply of sophisticated U.S. arms to Pakistan.

I.I.T. graduates returning from abroad

*100. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study undertaken by the Ministry has indicated that only 20 per cent of I.I.T. graduates, who go abroad, return India after studies; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) According to the report of the IIT Review Committee, on an average 20 per cent of the IIT graduates go abroad. A large percentage of these graduates eventually return to India.

A Statement indicating the measures taken by Government to attract back those settled abroad is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Measures taken by Government to attract back those settled abroad

1. Programmes have been launched through which 'core' groups of scientists are created in the country with all necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.

2. There is a provision for temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of Scientists Pool.

3. A provision has also been made for creation of supernumerary posts.

4. Facilities to import equipment have been provided to the scientists and technologists returning from abroad.

5. With a view to assisting non-resident Indians to secure expeditious clearance of their applications for setting up of industrial units in the country, a Special Cell has been created in the Ministry of Industry.

6. Delegations of enhanced administrative and financial powers have been made to scientific institutions to improve working conditions of scientists.

7. New scientific departments/organisations such as Departments of Biotechnology, Ocean Development, Environment, Non-conventional Energy Sources, Centre for Development of Telematics etc. have been set up and some of these are in high tchnology areas, which are likely to provide opportunities for scientists and technologists and attract them into the country.

8. Total outlay for science and technology has been increased in the successive Five Year Plans.